

Welcome to the first edition of EMPA News. We aim to make this a quarterly news bulletin to inform members of what has been happening within EMPA or to inform members of any outstanding news from our member associations.



EMPA President

EMPA is primarily about the European area, but we also like to think outside the box and cooperate with colleagues whose Pilot districts are close to the European continent.



I attended the first Maritime Pilot conference for Moroccan pilots in Tangier in October 2023. I was there as the chairman of EMPA, and it was a great honour to be invited.

During my presentation, I explained the different liability conditions faced by Maritime Pilots in various European Countries. I discussed the laws relating to the liability of Pilots in various EMPA member countries. Also, I highlighted the differences in liability conditions between these countries. My presentation aimed to help people understand the liability situation for Maritime Pilots across various EMPA member countries.



I was privileged to warmly welcome around 100 esteemed delegates while representing EMPA in Tangier.

During an excursion to the up-and-coming port of Tangier, it was impressive to see the professionalism with which the colleagues there go about their work.

The conference was planned with great care and attention to every detail, resulting in a highly successful event. The Moroccan hospitality was exceptional, and the locals were warm and friendly, making the attendees feel right at home. The organisers ensured that every aspect of the conference was executed with the utmost professionalism.

Correillo La Palma

Last November, we were kindly invited by our Spanish members to hold a board meeting on the beautiful Spanish Island of Tenerife. The meeting took place onboard the La Palma, which used to connect the Canary Islands, carrying passengers and goods. The La Palma is currently undergoing renovations, and we donated a small sum to help restore a porthole. A small plaque has been erected under the porthole to commemorate our donation.



Miguel Viera de Castro represents EMPA in Brazil.

Representing the European Maritime Pilots' Association (EMPA), Senior Vice President Miguel Viera de Castro attended the 45th Brazilian Maritime Pilots' meeting from December 5th to

6th in Brasília. The event occurred during the commemoration of the 215th anniversary of CONAPRA, the Brazilian Maritime Pilots Association.

During the event, delegates discussed maritime issues, sharing insights and best practices to enhance safety standards and efficiency in piloting operations. The exchange of ideas between EMPA and the Brazilian Maritime Pilots' Association aimed to create a more unified approach to address challenges maritime pilots face worldwide.



As Senior Vice President of EMPA, Miguel Viera de Castro had the opportunity to present, emphasizing the importance of international cooperation in ensuring safe and efficient maritime navigation, guaranteed by a market free from competition.

One of the key outcomes of the meeting was the identification of typical global challenges maritime pilots face, such as technological advancements, changing regulatory frameworks, and environmental concerns. The collaboration between EMPA and the Brazilian Maritime Pilots' Association aims to address these challenges collectively, fostering a safer and more sustainable maritime industry.

Our Female Pilots

For the last several months, we have been publishing articles on our website and various social media platforms, highlighting the incredible work of female Pilots within our member associations. These articles not only showcase their remarkable achievements but also provide an intimate look at the personality and character of each Pilot. Our goal is to inspire and encourage young women to pursue a fulfilling maritime industry career, hoping they will consider pilotage as a viable and rewarding option.

We want to thank our brave Pilots who took the time to sit and write their stories so far, Margarida Russo Bagão, Clare Holmes, and Kim Ossieur.

These articles can be found on our LinkedIn and Facebook pages as well as our website <https://empa-pilots.eu/news>

EMPA Secretary General

Dear colleagues,

As we look back on the past months, we can report that EMPA continues to proudly represent and defend the interests of our members on all fronts.

We closely follow-up on relevant (non) legislative files and initiatives that could impact maritime pilotage while maintaining good relations with policy makers and stakeholders. Furthermore, we are glad to assist our members when they face difficulties, always aspiring to improve Maritime Pilots' professional and technical proficiency. It has been a true pleasure for EMPA to publish a series of articles with the aim of encouraging more women to consider a career in the maritime industry, particularly in pilotage, which we plan to continue in the upcoming months. Lastly, we would like to invite you to send any articles, photographs and other news so we can share this information with our community.

European Maritime Day Brest

EMPA Vice President Henry Caubrière, IMPA Vice President André Gaillard and EMPA Secretary General Aileen Van Raemdonck attended the European Maritime Day, which was held in Brest, France, on 24-25 May 2023 and had the opportunity to meet with MEP Pierre Karleskind to discuss the concerns of Maritime Pilots regarding pending European initiatives and legislative files.



how to prepare our sectors for a net-zero economy in a rapidly changing world.



ESPO Conference Bremen



On 1 and 2 June 2023, EMPA President Erik Dalege and EMPA Secretary General Aileen Van Raemdonck participated in the annual ESPO (European Sea Ports Organisation) Conference in Bremen, Germany. They had valuable exchanges with several European policymakers and maritime stakeholders. Many interesting presentations and debates focused on

ETA Conference Alicante



EMPA Secretary General Aileen Van Raemdonck was invited to speak during a round table discussion at the ETA (European Tugowners Association) conference in Alicante on 15 June 2023. The conference theme was "People, the most valuable resource in our industry".

ESS Brussels



EMPA was a member of the Steering Group co-organising the European Shipping Summit in Brussels on 19-20 September 2023, which brought together representatives from across the maritime industry, government, finance, as well as energy and technology industries to address some of the most pressing topics for the future of the sector and of Europe.



Waterborne Days + Roundtable "Towards a Resilient and Competitive Waterborne Transport Sector" Brussels



EMPA was present at the Waterborne Days in Brussels on 26-27 September 2023 and participated in a high-level roundtable between representatives of six different European Commission DGs and relevant maritime stakeholders. The main topics of discussion were seafarers' well-being, the attractiveness of working in the maritime sector, the competitiveness of the European waterborne transport sector and foreign interference in European ports and terminals.

AMPI Conference Galway



EMPA Secretary General Aileen Van Raemdonck was kindly invited to address the first conference of the Association of Marine Pilots Ireland on "The Importance of Regulation and Best Practice" held in Galway on 3 October 2023.

ETA Autumn Conference Rotterdam

On 9 November 2023, EMPA attended the ETA Autumn Conference at the Europort exhibition in Rotterdam on the possibility of nuclear energy as a clean fuel for small vessels.



EMPA Board Meeting London



The EMPA Board of Directors was very appreciative of the UKMPA extending us an invitation to visit London. We had the privilege of being hosted by Lord Tony Berkeley at the House of Lords, and the Port of London Authority generously provided us with the opportunity to hold a productive board meeting at their premises. We made sure to visit our colleagues at the IMPA (International Maritime Pilots' Association) in their brand-new offices.

CEF Campaign



The current European legislative term is ending, and DG MOVE is preparing the new CEF (Connecting Europe Facility) budget. The relevant transport

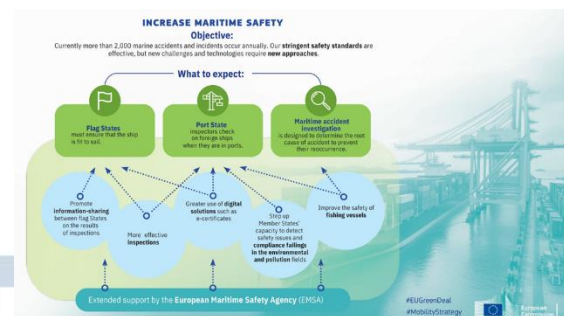
organisations, therefore, wish to spread the message that Europe's vital ambitions and targets can only be reached if they are complemented with the necessary EU funding and investments. EMPA is again committed to the joint campaign **“More EU budget for transport!”**.

Workshop for the Seafaring Profession



On 17 January 2024, EMPA participated in a Workshop for the seafaring profession in Brussels, organised by DG MOVE. The workshop's main aim was to discuss the following topics holistically: digitalisation, decarbonisation, social security and well-being at sea to increase efficiency and safety, improve life on board, and attract younger generations to the maritime sector.

Maritime Safety Package



On 1 June 2023, the European Commission presented the maritime safety package, focused on introducing modernised maritime safety and security rules on port state and flag state control, maritime accident investigation and ship source pollution. The package also includes a proposal to revise the Regulation of the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA). EMSA would be legally mandated to provide EU Member States and the Commission with technical, operational and scientific assistance to ensure maritime safety, security and the green and digital transition of the maritime sector. In the European Parliament, the Committee on Transport and Tourism (TRAN) is leading the work on this legislative file. The committee report was adopted on

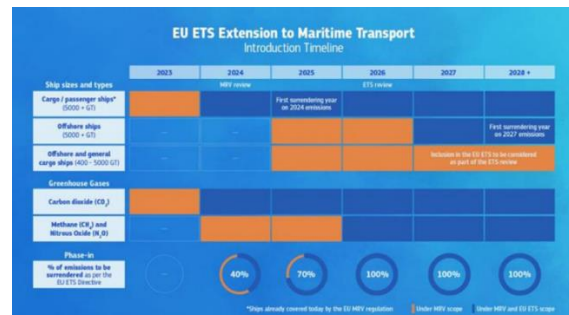
7 December 2023, along with a mandate to open trilogue negotiations.

European Port Strategy



The European Parliament has adopted a so-called own-initiative (non-legislative) report by MEP Tom Berendsen calling on the Commission for an EU Port Strategy by the end of 2024. Europe needs robust ports and solid supply chains at its core. Furthermore, the report urges the Commission to put port workers at the centre of the digital and green transition and to make the industry more attractive to women. It stresses the need to safeguard fair and safe working conditions for all port and maritime workers. The report also underlines the risks of delocalisation of container transshipment activities to non-EU ports with the aim of evading the requirements of the EU Emission Trading System (ETS) Directive and the FuelEU Maritime Regulation.

ETS

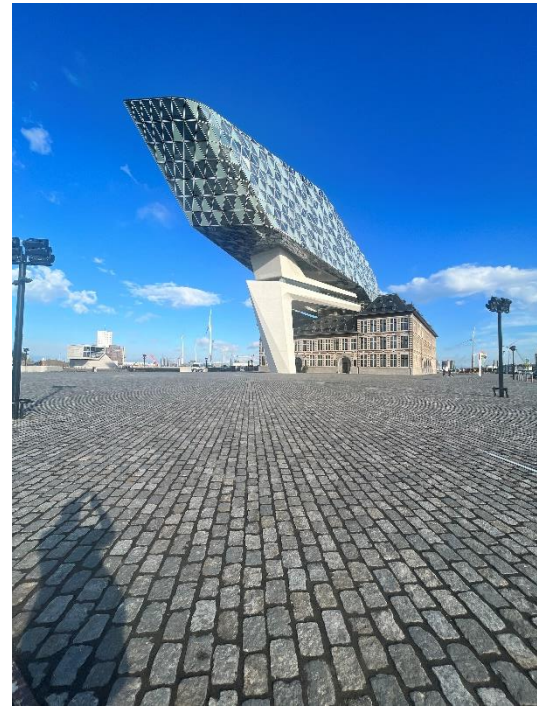


The EU Emissions Trading System (ETS) makes polluters pay for greenhouse gas emissions and generates revenues to finance the EU's green transition. In January 2024, the ETS was extended to cover CO₂ emissions from all large ships of 5000 GT and above entering EU ports, regardless of the flag they fly. The system covers 50% of emissions from voyages starting or ending outside the EU and 100% of emissions between two EU ports and when ships are within EU ports. The ETS covers CO₂ (carbon dioxide), CH₄ (methane) and N₂O (nitrous oxide) emissions, the two latter only as from 2026.

In November 2023, EMPA, together with other European maritime stakeholders, co-signed a joint press release to urge the EU Commission to start a study about the impact of EU ETS for shipping, to express the need for a global ETS, and to explore the possibility of concluding bilateral agreements with EU neighbouring countries to adopt legislation similar to ETS. EMPA also co-signed a joint letter to DG CLIMA to raise awareness about the risk of carbon leakage and business leakage at the expense of EU ports and to request a meeting to discuss this critical topic.

Save The Date

This year's EMPA General meeting will be held in Antwerp on May 7th and 8th. The Port of Antwerp has kindly allowed us to use their impressive conference facilities at the Port of Antwerp building. The building was designed by the world-famous architect Zaha Hadid.



EMPA

